



# ***The Defense Acquisition Workforce***



# ***Strengthening the Defense Acquisition Workforce***

***Garry Shafovaloff  
Deputy Director, Human Capital Initiatives  
Acquisition, Technology and Logistics***

***October 26, 2010***



# The Case

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***\$1.6 Trillion***

<http://view.dau.mil/dauvideo/view/eventListing.jhtml?eventid=2275&c=>



**March 4,  
2009**



**White  
House  
Memo**

Barack  
Obama  
President

**Improve  
the  
capacity &  
ability of  
the  
Federal  
acquisition  
workforce**  
Top Priority:  
High Quality  
Acquisition  
Workforce

**OMB Direction July 29, 2009**

**National Security Strategy  
National Defense Strategy**

**April 6, 2009  
Announcement**

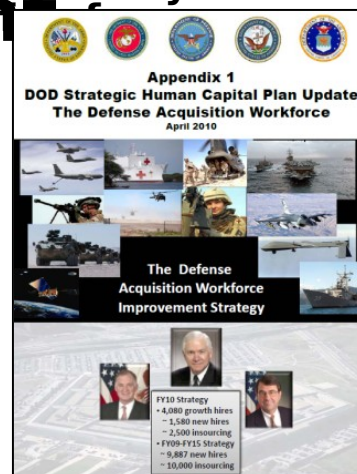


Hon. Dr. Ashton  
Carter  
Under  
Secretary of  
Defense (AT&L)

**Objective:  
Restore &  
Rebalance  
Defense  
Acquisition  
Workforce**



Robert  
Gates  
Secretary



**DAW Plan - April 2010**

# The Under Secretary of Defense AT&L



**Hon. Dr. Ashton  
Carter  
Under  
Secretary of  
Defense (AT&L)**

“Quantity is important, but quality is paramount. Of all our programs in AT&L, the most important is to increase the competence, quality, and performance of the acquisition workforce. That matters more than any organizational reform....

The quality of people is the most important variable we can change to alter acquisition outcomes.”



# Leadership and Other Drivers... Strengthen the Acquisition Workforce

- President's 4 March 2009 Memo - assess and ensure capacity of acquisition workforce to develop, manage, and oversee acquisitions appropriately
- OMB Memo's July 2009 "Improving Government Acquisition" & "Managing the Multi-Sector Workforce"
- SECDEF Intent -- 6 April 2009 - restore and rebalance acquisition workforce; 20,000 growth by FY2015 - includes 10,000 growth related to in-sourcing (supports Acquisition Reform and DOD Efficiency Initiatives)
- Quadrennial Defense Review - February 2010 "...bolster the capability and size of the acquisition workforce."
- USD (AT&L) - "Workforce quality is paramount" (April 2010 HCSP)
- Human Capital Planning for DoD AT&L Workforce identified as High Risk by GAO (lacks critical information on competencies and skills)
- OPM HCAAF Human Capital Assessment and Accountability Framework
- SECDEF Efficiency Initiative - Complete Acq Workforce Growth - Essential to Acq Reform and Efficiency Objectives
- Active Congress - Report on acquisition workforce strategy, gaps, plan. Tools Provided - Workforce Fund, Hiring tools (Section 1108)



# Key Workforce Capability Questions

## Key strategic and management questions:

- What overall **capability** do we need to execute the **acquisition mission**?
- What “**workforce**” **capability** do we need?
- Which competencies are **mission critical**?  
Priority?
- What competency **gaps** exist?
- What is our assessment of near term and long term workforce capability **risk**?
- What solutions will help us **mitigate risk**?  
What is the case for our mitigation approach?
- What are the **opportunities for strengthening workforce success** - quality, capability and outcomes?

# Defense Acquisition Workforce Activist

## Congressional Interest

FY06 NDAA Sec 804 New DAW Development Fund & Capabilities

(Report submitted to Congress June 2007)

FY07 NDAA Sec 853 Program Manager Empowerment/Accountability

(Report submitted to Congress Oct 2007)

FY07 NDAA Sec 801 Requirements Training

(Update report provided to Congress; training deployed)

FY07 NDAA Sec 820 Performance of Critical Acq Functions (w/l 5 years)

(Will be part of next Human Capital Report to Congress)

FY08

(Will be)

FY08

(Depl

FY08

(Will be)

FY08

(Will be)

FY08

(USD

FY09

(Auth

FY09

(Will be part of next Human Capital Report to Congress)

FY09 NDAA Sec 1111 Lifts HQ Ceiling Caps for Acquisition Workforce

(Authority available)

FY09 NDAA Sec 503 Provides for increasing acquisition flag officers

(increases in-progress)

FY09 Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act

(Requires improved recognition of acquisition workforce - USD AT&L signed implementing memo August 3, 2008)

Nov 2008 SASC letter to SECDEF - Rebuild Acquisition Workforce (co-signed by

Senator's Levin and McCain)

FY10 NDAA Modifies DAW Development Fund & Improves Expedited Hiring

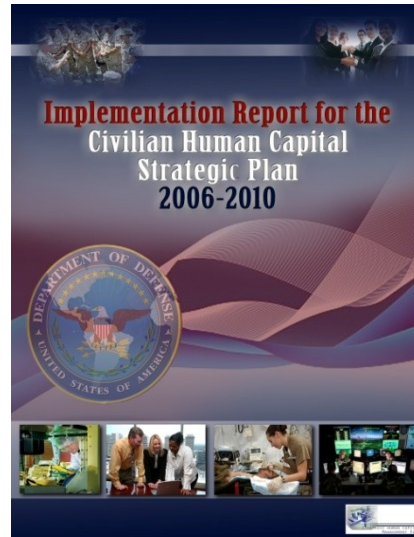
Authority for DAW

Many Laws To  
Improve  
Acquisition Workforce

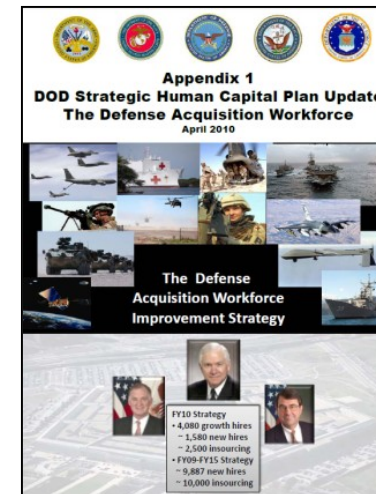


# Defense Acquisition Workforce Human Capital Plans

DOD - March 2010

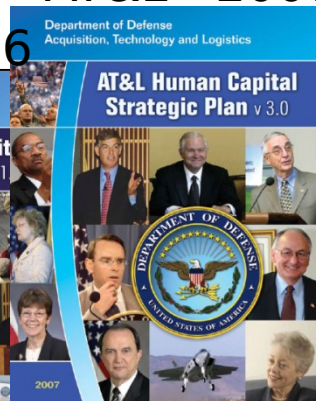


AT&L - April 2010

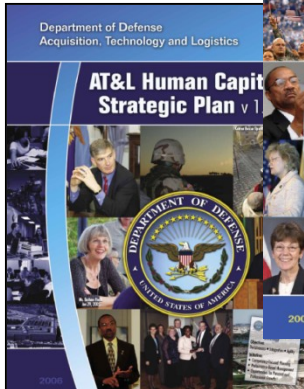


Appendix 1

AT&L - 2007



AT&L 2006



<https://acc.dau.mil/acquisitionworkfor>



**Total Defense Acquisition Workforce Growth  
Through FY11 Q3 (FY08 PB23 Baseline)**

Total Defense Acquisition Workforce Growth Through FY11 Q3 (from FY08 PB23 Baseline)												
Defense Acquisition Workforce Career Field	ARMY	NAVY	AF	DCMA	DCAA	Other	Total FY11Q3	Total FY09	FY10 Growth	FY08 Baseline	Change From Baseline	% Change from Baseline
Auditing	-	-	-	-	3,999	2	4,001	3,777	224	3,499	502	14.3%
Business - Cost Estimating (BUS-CE)*	192	416	289	2	-	6	905	-	905		905	8.6%
Business - Financial Mgmt*	2,587	2,116	1,787	145	-	353	6,988	7,262	(274)	7,269	(281)	
Contracting	8,913	5,879	7,718	2,532	2	4,249	29,293	27,655	1,638	27,457	1,836	6.7%
Facilities Engineering	1,588	5,055	23	-	-	7	6,673	5,420	1,253	4,491	2,182	48.6%
Industrial/Contract Property Mgmt	85	78	28	288	-	15	494	475	19	537	(43)	-8.0%
Information Technology	2,086	1,536	987	154	-	197	4,960	4,358	602	4,270	690	16.2%
Life Cycle Logistics	8,755	5,094	2,307	33	-	106	16,295	14,852	1,443	12,883	3,412	26.5%
Production, Quality and Manufacturing	2,071	2,157	408	4,187	-	668	9,491	9,023	468	9,847	(356)	-3.6%
Program Management	3,465	5,106	4,876	349	1	739	14,536	13,422	1,114	13,474	1,062	7.9%
Purchasing	349	573	154	5	2	222	1,305	1,238	67	1,041	264	25.4%
SPRDE - S&T Manager	241	305	1,885	11	-	118	2,560	623	1,937	425	2,135	502.4%
SPRDE - Systems Engineering	10,660	18,715	7,544	738	-	686	38,343	36,470	1,873	34,501	3,842	11.9%
SPRDE - Program System Engineer (PSE)*	26	92	116	32	-	12	278	234	44		278	
Test and Evaluation	2,296	2,972	2,833	17	-	271	8,389	7,892	497	7,433	956	12.9%
Unknown/Other	14	-	7	1	-	22	44	402	(358)	656	(612)	-93.3%
TOTAL Statutory Workforce Count	43,328	50,094	30,962	8,494	4,004	7,673	144,555	133,103	11,452	127,783	16,772	13.1%
Acquisition Career Field	ARMY	NAVY	AF	DCMA	DCAA	Other	Total FY11Q3	Total FY09	FY10 Growth	FY08 Baseline	Growth From Baseline	% Change from Baseline
*Note. Since the FY08 baseline the Business and SPRDE Systems Engineering career fields were further broken out into additional career paths												
Source: AT&I. Data Mart: prepared by AT&I. HCL												

# Dr. Aston Carter's Efficiency Initiative...

June 28, 2010



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

JUN 28 2010

## MEMORANDUM FOR ACQUISITION PROFESSIONALS

SUBJECT: Better Buying Power: Mandate for Restoring Affordability and Productivity in Defense Spending

I have written to you previously to emphasize, with President Obama and Secretary Gates, that your highest priority is to support our forces at war on an urgent basis. Over the last year, the Department has also worked to reform its acquisition system, including implementing the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act. Today I write to give direction on another important priority: delivering better value to the taxpayer and improving the way the Department does business.

We are a nation at war, and the Department does not expect the defense budget to decline. At the same time, we will not enjoy the large rate of growth we experienced during the years after September 11, 2001. We must therefore abandon inefficient practices accumulated in a period of budget growth and learn to manage defense dollars in a manner that is, to quote Secretary Gates at his May 8, 2010 speech at the Eisenhower Library, "respectful of the American taxpayer at a time of economic and fiscal distress."

This reality, combined with a determination to take care of our service members and avoid major changes in force structure, has led the Secretary and Deputy Secretary to launch an efficiencies initiative in the Department. The initiative requires the Department to reduce funding devoted to unneeded or low-priority overhead, and to transfer these funds to force structure and modernization so that funding for these warfighting capabilities grows at approximately three percent annually. This is the rate of growth needed historically to continue to give the troops what they need.

Some of these savings can be found by eliminating unneeded programs and activities; and, indeed, the Department's leadership has already taken strong action in this area and will need to do more. But other savings can be found within programs and activities we do need, by conducting them more efficiently. Deputy Secretary Lynn expects that two-thirds of the savings transferred to warfighting accounts should come about this way. Pursuing this kind of efficiency is the purpose of my message today to the Department's acquisition professionals. We need to restore affordability to our programs and activities. I would like

*"....We are a nation  
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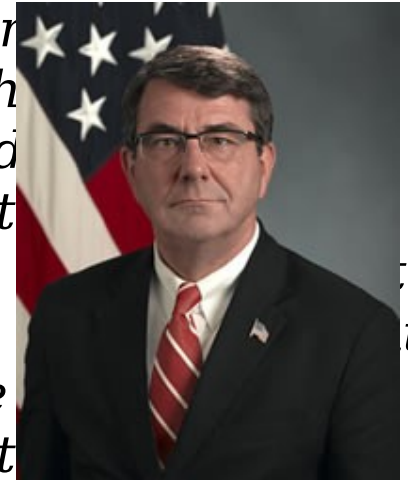
***abandon inefficient practices***

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*Eisenhower Library, 'respectful of*



# ***Efficiency Initiative Implementation***

Guidance Memorandum dated, 14 September

*Better Buying Power: Guidance for Obtaining Greater Efficiency and Productivity in Defense Spending*

## **5 Major Platform Areas (23 Principal Actions)**

- Target Affordability & Control Cost Growth
- Incentivize Productivity & Innovation in Industry
- Promote Real Competition
- Improve Tradecraft in Services Acquisition
- Reduce Non-Productive Processes & Bureaucracy

# ***Target Affordability & Control Cost Growth***

- Mandate affordability as a requirement
  - At Milestone A set affordability target as a Key Performance Parameter
  - At Milestone B establish engineering trades showing how each key design feature affects the target cost
- Drive productivity growth through Will Cost/Should Cost management
- Eliminate redundancy within warfighter portfolios
- Make production rates economical and hold them stable
- Set shorter program timelines and manage to them



# ***Incentivize Productivity & Innovation in Industry***

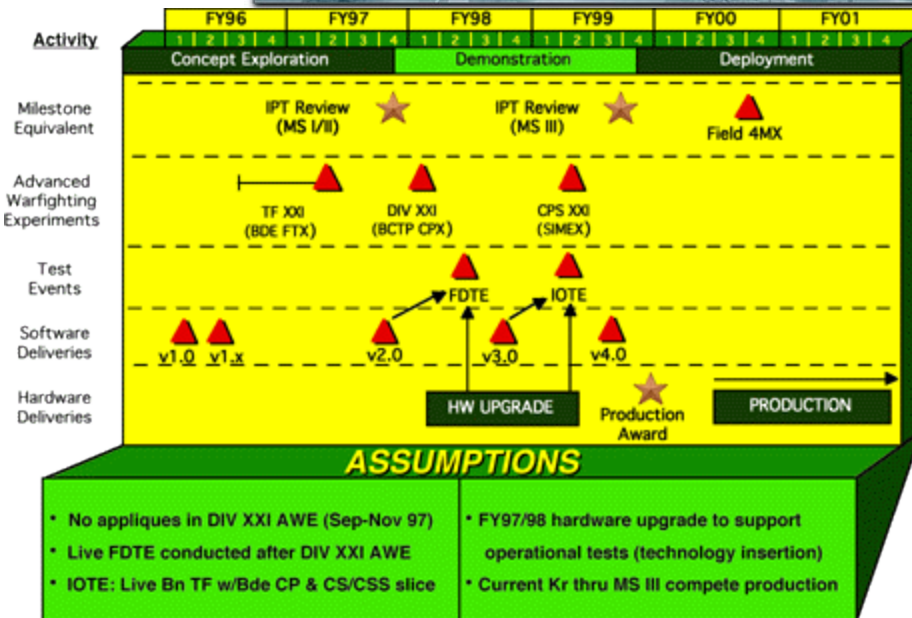


- Reward contractors for successful supply chain and indirect expense management
- Increase the use of FPIF contract type where appropriate using a 50/50 share line and 120 percent ceiling as a point of departure
- Adjust progress payments to incentivize performance
- Extend the Navy's Preferred Supplier Program to a DoD-wide pilot
- Reinvigorate industry's independent research and development and protect the defense technology base



# Promote Real Competition

- Present a competitive strategy at each program milestone
- Remove obstacles to competition
  - Allow reasonable time to bid
  - Require non-certified cost and pricing data on single offers
  - Require open system architectures and set rules for acquisition of technical data rights
- Increase dynamic small business role in defense marketplace competition





# ***Improve Tradecraft in Services Acquisition***

- Create a senior manager for acquisition of services in each component, following the Air Force's example
- Adopt uniform taxonomy for different types of services
- Address causes of poor tradecraft in services acquisition
  - Assist users of services to define requirements and prevent creep via requirements templates
  - Assist users of services to conduct market research to support competition and pricing
  - Enhance competition by requiring more frequent re-compete of knowledge-based services
  - Limit the use of time and materials and award fee contracts for services
  - Require that services contracts exceeding \$1 B contain cost efficiency objectives
- Increase small business participation in providing services

# ***Reduce Non-Productive Processes & Bureaucracy***

- Reduce the number of OSO-level reviews to those necessary to support major investment decisions or to uncover and respond to significant program execution issues
- Eliminate low-value-added statutory processes
- Reduce by half the volume and cost reports
- Reduce non-value-added overhead imposed on industry
- Align DCMA and OCAA processes to ensure work is complementary
- Increase use of Forward Pricing Rate Recommendations (FPRRs) to reduce administrative costs



# DAW Continuous Improvement Ideas

1	Improve rigor of certification standards and training
2	Increase emphasis on key experience - implement "Acquisition Qualification Standards"
3	Require more deliberate military career development and paths
4	Key workforce management approach - risk-based management of workforce - narrower focus
5	Improve acquisition career paths to create hierarchy of increasingly responsible positions; centralize assignment management and compete at least each KLP position
6	Significantly increase investment and improve earlier civilian leadership training
7	Update vision for the acquisition workforce
8	Support, equip and require a positive engagement of supervisors with employees at local level to achieve organizational and enterprise workforce objectives
9	Improve rigor of certification program by requiring recertification every five years and written tests to demonstrate competence
10	accurately communicate total mission performed (emphasize all disciplines of acquisition team that contribute to successful and improved acquisition outcomes)
11	Minimize "being unique" amongst total DOD team and better integrate acquisition workforce as part of the whole
12	Empower and equip field to be great at assessing local workforce gaps and responding to gaps with tailored, in-context training
13	Ensure retention of consistent core policy, standards, and training that contribute to the overall quality of the acquisition workforce
14	Reward the workforce for knowing and practicing the business; not for checking a box that they got certified
15	Retain strong central policy and standards; empower and equip field to improve local management of workforce

# DAW Continuous Improvement Ideas

16	Increase use of local targeted, in-context training and increase use of mentoring and targeted developmental (experience) assignments
17	improve use of incentives and ethical guidelines
18	Take on more attributes of a profession - certification testing
19	Take opportunity to leverage outside best practices
20	Scrub, streamline DAWIA; identify low value structure and processes - eliminate
21	Develop a workforce Oath for the acquisition workforce that captures the integrity and principles
22	Identify acquisition outcomes that matter and link/measure to workforce
23	streamline outdated processes and policy
24	Use a "pull" approach to filling key acquisition positions; improve "best fit" job match processes and tools
25	Significantly increase focus on "Experience-focused" development
26	Certification is critical element of being a profession - make certification requirements more stringent
27	Make a Military acquisition career path more realistic - ensure a visible way to the top
28	Increase focus on filling key positions with "best fit" right people for the job for all KLPs
29	Empower and require a proactive AT&L Workforce Management Group (WMG) to achieve SECDEF objectives; require improved connection to "on the ground" program and workforce needs (field connection)
30	Improve tracking and leveraging of 852 initiatives and best practices across Components and leverage for efficiency

# DAW Continuous Improvement Ideas

31	Significantly improve consistency in designating acquisition positions, identifying workforce and key work they do (e.g., what programs they support; what major type of acquisition do they do); and significantly improve ability to track workforce qualifications more accurately
32	Identify and leverage common enterprise competencies
33	Leverage competency process to become more data driven; e.g. use key situation data from competency initiative to develop improved workforce qualification tools
34	Strengthen communication and linkage between DACMs and Functional Community Leaders; Increase and leverage Functional Leader crosstalk, sharing, and drive migration of best practices across FIPs
35	Establish consequences for not meeting workforce requirements (e.g., certification)
36	Move to more civilians on Key Leadership Positions
37	Move to less training for the masses; more targeted training for key positions
38	Consider stronger centralized control of acquisition workforce resources
39	Increase management over categories of key acquisition positions (e.g. smaller groups, narrower focus)
40	Increase emphasis on Tenure
41	Achieve Consistency in Coding/ Designating Acquisition Positions
42	Place greater emphasis on the workforce getting key experiences
43	Improve ability to measure acquisition outcomes; then link to improved, targeted workforce management to improve acquisition outcomes
44	improve KLP tenure and stability
45	Accelerate workforce becoming experienced; seasoned, highly qualified acquisition professional
46	Improve identity of contracting workforce sub-specialities; increase Level III training rigor (e.g. CON353)
47	Establish refresher course every five years
48	Strengthen certification requirements and tracks

# FY11 Overview

FY2011

FY2012

O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D

**Strategy/Progress**

**Updates/HCSB**

**Senior Steering Board (SSB)**

**Workforce Management Group (WMG)**

**Metric Reporting to OMB/CMO**

**AT&L/FCM/SSB "Guidance" Update\***

**DAWDF Strategy/Initiative Reviews**

**Hearings/Legislative Proposals/NDAAs**

Hearings/Proposals

NDAAs

**HCSP #1 -Grow Workforce**

Sustainment Programmed (POM12)

Sec 820 Key Positions Govt by Oct 2011

**HCSP #2 -Improve Total Force Mgt**

Consistent Definition  
for Contractor Support (no date)

Improve, Integrate HR, Manpower, Budget,  
Data Mart Info to support decisions (9/30)

**HCSP #3 - Improve MDAP Staffing**

Staffing Plans Done (9/30)

Data Strategy for Improved  
Visibility of MDAP Staffing

**HCSP #4 - Improve Certification**

Improve Certification Construct to  
Emphasize Experience (no date)

Establish Enterprise Certification Goals  
(6/30)

**HCSP #5-Improve Analysis Capability**

Improve Analytics,  
Transparency, Metrics (6/30)

Complete In-depth Military  
Analysis (9/30)

**HCSP #6 - Fill Gaps/Recruiting**

Components Validate Gaps,  
Involve Plans, Track (Monthly and  
Qtrly)

Focus Recruiting on Military. Track/Report  
Veteran Hiring as of 9/30 annually

**HCSP #7 - Fill Gaps/Retention**

Define, Identify, Implement Incentives/Pay  
Policies; Improve KLP Candidate Pool (9/30)

**HCSP #8 - Improve Learning Tools**

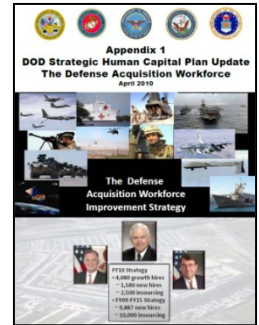
Enhanced Mission Assistance for  
MDAPs/MAIS Programs starting 01/10

Deploy Certification  
Improvement Initiatives  
(9/30)

\*Major Annual Guidance; other guidance as necessary from AT&L and SSB

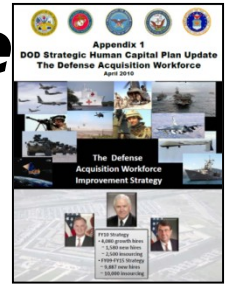


# ***“8” Defense Acquisition Workforce Key Strategy Enablers/Initiatives***



- 1. Achieve the SECDEF Growth Strategy - 20,000**
- 2. Deploy Tools to Assess, Track, and Account for “Total Force” Defense Acquisition Workforce Capability and Capacity.**
- 3. Right size and right shape Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) office staffing with the right skilled people to enable successful program outcomes.**
- 4. Establish enterprise certification goals as a management tool for improving workforce quality.**

# ***“8” Defense Acquisition Workforce Key Strategy Enablers/Initiatives***



- 5. Establish a comprehensive workforce analysis and decision-making capability.**
- 6. Establish robust recruiting strategies focused on interns, journeymen, and Highly Qualified Expert (HQE) initiatives.**
- 7. Attract and retain a high quality, high performing military and civilian acquisition workforce.**
- 8. Provide an integrated, interactive learning environment that helps acquisition workforce members, teams, and organizations improve acquisition outcomes.**

# FY11 DAW Workforce Priorities

- Finish and Sustain SECDEF Growth Initiative
- Strategy and Initiatives Focus – Improve Workforce Quality (Experience) – Improve Acquisition Outcomes
- Identify and Contribute to SECDEF Efficiency Objectives
- Follow-through/update DAW HCSP “8” Major Initiatives
- Improved analytics and workforce identification
- Leverage Proactive, Integrated WMG for Improved Smart Partnering, Communication and Decisions
- Your input \_\_\_\_\_

# Thank You

- What you do is important...a word on the big “C”

<http://prhome.defense.gov/VIDEO/>